Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Are we therefore to take it that the awards are passed upon incorrect or suspicious data?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is not so.

Mr. President: Order, order. The time for question has expired.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* God saved the Diwan Peishkar.

FAIR PRICE SHOPS—PARTICULARS OF

13. Mrs. Dakshayani Velayudhan *(Nominated):* Will Government be pleased to give the total number of Fair Price shops in the State directly run by the Food Department?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* 104.

PRICE OF RICE—PARTICULARS REGARDING

14. Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Will Government be pleased to state,—

(*a*) what was the price of rice per edangazhi in Chittur and in other parts of the State before July 1st;

(*b*) what is the price now?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) In Chittur	In other places
Imported rice	
Rs. 0—6—4 per Ed.	Rs. 0—6—4 per Ed.
Local milled rice	
Rs. 0—6—2 per Ed.	Rs. 0—6—4 per Ed.
(*b*) *All varieties of rice*—	
Rs. 0—5—8 per Ed.	Rs. 0—5—8 per Ed.

Announcement of the names of Members elected to Advisory Committees and Boards

Mr. President: With reference to the elections to various Boards and Committees, I have to announce that for the two vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Education Mr. M. K. Raja and Mr. C. J. Cheriath have been nominated. For the two vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Agriculture, Co-operation, Panchayats, and Uplift of the Depressed Classes Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan and Mr. K. K. Kannan have been nominated. For the three vacancies on the Irrigation Board Mr. P. K. Paul, Mr. K. S. Panicker, and Mr. C. N. Ittiravi Nambudiri have been nominated. For the one vacancy on the Standing Finance Committee, three Hon'ble Members were nominated. Two of them have withdrawn their nominations and the only nomination subsisting is that of Mr. Eachara Menon. For two vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Industries and Commerce including Fisheries, Public Works and Forests, 4 Hon'ble Members were nominated. Messrs. K. A. Raghavan and S. P. Luiz have withdrawn their nominations and the two remaining nominations are these of Messrs. P. Mani and M. O. Thomakutty. For two vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Medicine and Public Health, 3 Hon'ble Members were nominated. Mr. P. T. Jacob has subsequently withdrawn his nomination and the two remaining nominations are those of Mr. P. M. Mayankutty and Mrs. Francis. For 3 vacancies on the Road Board, 4 nominations were received. Mr. A. Eachara Menon has since withdrawn and the remaining 3 nominations are those of Messrs. C. S. Panicker, S. P. Luiz and Jos. K. Verghess. As in each case the subsisting nominations agree with the number of vacancies, the Hon'ble Members whose names I have read will be considered duly elected to these Boards and Committees.

Condolence motion on the demise of Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Mr. President, Sir, it is my melancholy duty to give expression to the feelings of g ief of this House on the demise of Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar. Mr. Balarama Ayyar was a member of this House returned in the General Election of 1110 from the Trichur-North General Constituency. There are a few Hon'ble Members here today who have worked with him in this House, but by far a larger section of this House, I think, had no occasion to know directly about his activities as a Legislator. His knowledge of matters financial was profound and deep. The speech which he made in the Budget Session of 1110 is still ringing in my years. I have never heard within this Chamber such a searching and

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constructive criticism of the Budget. The House and the Diwan President attended spell-bound and nobody noticed that he exceeded the allotted time and that during the course of the speech the clock struck half past five. It was very rarely that Mr. Balarama Ayyar participated in a debate but whenever he did, he did it with distinction and contributed something substantial to the discussion.

But Mr. Balarama Ayyar's work as a Legislator was the least part of his life. I don't think he relished politics very much. After 3 years in the Legislative Council, in the general election of 1113, he did not even contest a seat and gave up active politics for ever. Mr. Balarama Ayyar will be remembered by posterity as a Pioneer Industrialist of Cochin. He is taking to industry was deliberate and considering the time it was done and the circumstances, it was remarkable, that he made that choice. He hailed from an illustrious and wealthy Brahmin family of Trikkur. He became a graduate in the early years of this Century. His father, the late Chellam Karyakkar was a well-known figure in Cochin and was on very friendly terms with the Maharaja and the Government. His paternal uncle, the late Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar was a leading advocate of Madras. They were not days when there was an over-abundance of graduates and in the circumstances in which Mr. Balarama Ayyar was placed it was not difficult for him to secure a good Government post or to qualify for the Bar and practice successfully in some law-court. These are the usual directions in which the mind of a young graduate, then as now, turned. But it is remarkable that Mr. Balarama Ayyar never cared for Government service which he could very easily have secured, nor took to the profession of law where he could very easily have come up under the guidance of his uncle Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar. He chose deliberately an industrial career. Six weaving looms were established in Punkunnam in Trichur which became the nucleus of the present Seetharam Spinning and Weaving Mills. Courage and conviction of a rare order was necesssry if a young graduate, a Brahmin and a member of a noble and affluent family, should take to weaving as a profession in those days when a good monthly paid post which was the goal of all educated men was easily available for him.

Subsequent events have shown that the man whose death we mourn today, did not make a bad or wrong choice. The small concern with half a dozen hand-looms developed and grew and became the present Seetharam Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd. I do not know the number of spindles and looms employed in the Mills today but am informed that it is one of the premier Spinning and Weaving Concerns in Southern India. All alone till his death, Mr. Balarama Ayyar was the Managing Director of this Concern who successfully managed its affairs and helped it through the several vicissitudes which faced the cotton industry in India from time to time.

That Mr. Balarama Ayyar was a Captain of Industry is well-known. But it is not so well known that he was a profound scholar too. He was a deeply religious man and continued his religious studies to the very last.

When he died he was sixty-three years old. He was energetic and active even after sixty. Considering this, it must be said that his was a premature death. He has left a vacuum which is difficult to fill. His death has been a great blow to the great Industrial Concern of which he was the father; and to his friends and relatives who are numerous. To me who was a close friend of the deceased, the death of Mr. Balarama Ayyar is in the nature of a personal loss. I request the House to join me in praying for peace to the departed soul.

Miss Anie Joseph *(Trichur-Women):* I wish to associate myself with the tribute that has been paid to the memory of Mr. T. S. Balarama Ayyar whose loss we mourn today. I happened to know Mr. Balarama Ayyar fairly well. Besides he was an intimate friend of my father. So I feel I should take this oppurtunity of adding my own tribute to his memory. Mr. Balarama Ayyar was a man of admirable qualities. He was a splendid example to both young and old. Our State has been rendered poorer by the passing of such a distinguished individual. It is my fervent prayer that his soul may rest in peace.

Mr. C. J. Cherayath *(Nellayi):* I feel it my sad duty this day to pay my homage to late Mr. Balarama Ayyar, the great among our own villagers, on behalf our party also I associate myself with all the sentiments of condolence expressed by the honourable mover of the motion. This house must know that the premier industrialist of the State on whom the Leveller the icy hand of death recently laid his cruel hands hailed from our village, Trikkur. The initial T in his name stands for Trikkur Madhom. As such our village has lost its greatest while the State has lost its primier industrialist. We believe that our loss is the heaviest and the most serious, and therefore I cannot but bemoan the loss on behalf of myself, our villagers and our constituency. Our villagers do not grudge that Mr. Balarama Ayyar served elsewhere for we know that we can afford to do so as we have done before.

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Our Village has produced a few great men. This house cannot possibly forget the late Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar who was admitted to be an advocate of prominent position. He was the uncle of Mr. Balarama Ayyar and my own worthy predecessor in this house. I shall be a delinquent if I do not make at least a passing mention of the late Mr. T. R. Anantharama Ayyar, who was perhaps the greatest among them, being the person who by his industry, perseverance and capacity enabled the members of the Trikkur Madom to grow great.

A few of the members of the Trikkur Madom migrated to Punkunnom according to plan laid down by the late Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar. Under the able leadership of Mr. Balarama Ayyar but always taking advise of his uncle Ramachandra Ayyar who was then practising at Madras, the little village of Punkunnom flourished and progressed by leaps and bounds until at last it has now turned to be a very valuable limb of the town of Trichur. If the planning of the present Punkunnom including, of course, the Sitaram mills originated from the late Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar, there is no doubt that the prime executant of the plan was Mr. Balarama Ayyar. The services of Mr. Balarama Ayyar as a Legislator have been already referred to by the member.

Mr. Balarama Ayyar was a pioneer in our industrial activity and fortunately the pioneer himself grew our into premier industrialist. Let those who are interested and those who are able, to take inspiration from Mr. Balarama Ayyar and work for the industrial advancement of our State without which we are not going to be saved in the long run. If our State is slow in this respect let our people be more serious and earnest and let them bring into existence as many industrial concerns as possible like the Sitarams.

I have known Mr. Balarama Ayyar from my infancy and I have always found in him a loving and lovable generous hearted gentleman. Though the scion of any orthodox brahmin house and himself an orthodox he was social and sociable and did evince a very keen interest in all activities promoting public interest. It is beyond doubt that the Sitarams would not have grown into such a big industrial concern if not for the farsight, tact, organising ability and administrative capacities of the late Mr. Balarama Ayyar.

Charity begins at home and this explains his exceeding care and attachment towards his own kith and kin. I for one only love him all the more for that trait in his character. He had in him also abudance of that milk of human kindness and when times required, it was quite possible for him to extend his goodness and kindness to the needy.

I conclude praying that eternal blessing may crown his noble services here below.

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Secretary to Government)* : I wish to associate myself on behalf of the Government with the sentiments expressed by the Hon'ble Member, Mr. Govinda Menon, A pioneer industrialist, a keen student and an erudite scholar, Mr. Balarama Ayyar commanded considerable respect in whatever sphere he moved in life and there can be no doubt that his demise is a great loss to this State. May his soul rest in peace!

Mr. President : I do not myself know Mr. Balarama Ayyar as a member of this Legislative Council but since I came to this State I have from time to time had the privilege of meeting him, and I fully realise the respect and admiration which he was commanding. I therefore should like to associate myself with this motion of condolence. I will ask Hon'ble members who associate with this motion to stand up in their seats.

The motion passed unanimously

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Industrial Statistics Bill

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)* : I beg to move the Industrial Statistics Bill, be read in Council.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)* : I second it.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: This is a bill which is in operation in British India and it is the intention of the Government of India to enforce it in all parts of British India. Along with it they also desired that this State should make such a provision enforceable here also with the idea of ensuring uniformity in the application. The intention is to give statutory authority for collecting necessary statistics regarding factories, conditions in factories and regarding the welfare of the labour employed there. I may just mention some of the main subjects on which statistics are intended to be collected, *i. e.*, prices of commodities;

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